

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91109

DIVISION OF BIOLOGY

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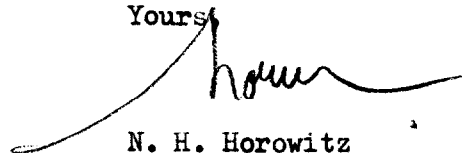
Dear Josh,

I can't find anything in my old correspondence that would be helpful in connection with the history of Avery's ideas. I have looked up Beadle's 1945 paper in Chem. Rev., however, and find on page 76 a clear statement that I am sure represents the views we held at that time. Beadle also refers to Wright's 1945 review in Ann. Rev. Physiol., in which he points out the great significance of Avery et al.'s discovery. I am sure we would have considered it a very long shot--probably a waste of time--to attempt to transform a eucaryotic organism, and this without minimizing the importance of Avery's finding.

I mentioned your question to Bob Sinsheimer, and he told me that Avery's paper was what decided him to go into nucleic acids. This was probably in the early '50s. You can get more details from him.

Sorry I can't be more helpful.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'N. H. Horowitz', written over a horizontal line.

N. H. Horowitz